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*Briefing*  
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OLC 78-1072/1  
17 March 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : [ ] Acting Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Briefing of House Select Committee on  
Narcotics Abuse and Control - 20 March 1978 [ ]

1. [ ] Action Requested: It is requested that you approve the attached statement and witness list for your briefing of Chairman Lester Wolff's House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control.

2. [ ] Background: Chairman Wolff has requested that the Agency testify at a hearing in executive session at 10:00 a.m., Monday, 20 March 1978, in 2200 Rayburn House Office Building. This is a follow-on to hearings concerning alleged involvement of the [ ] in providing a large loan to the Colombian Government. The allegation involves Fidel Castro as helping to facilitate the loan or to facilitate illicit trafficking of cocaine from Colombia to the U.S. The allegations were developed through Committee staff investigations but are not substantiated by CIA information. In a briefing earlier this week, it was explained to Committee staff members that the information in Agency files concerning [ ] matter has come to us from other agencies. We also emphasized (as did former Director Bush in his testimony before the Committee in 1976) that CIA has a very limited role in the collection of information involving illicit narcotics trafficking as it directly relates to law enforcement and that there is an added problem when U.S. persons or companies are involved. Chairman Wolff, however, insisted that the Agency testify and provide detailed information on a number of questions posed by the Committee. This matter is currently under active investigation by various State and Federal law enforcement agencies and to date two indictments have been handed down.

3. [ ] The attached short statement which you would read to open the session, explains the extent of the Agency's role in supporting law enforcement agencies engaged in combatting illicit narcotics trafficking. At the conclusion of your statement, the hearing would be turned over to [ ] who will accompany you as a witness and who will, from prepared notes, respond to specific questions which the Committee posed prior to the hearing. He is also prepared to answer any further questions which the Committee

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may have. We have very little information which concerns the subject of interest to the Committee and most of that information was provided by other agencies. The Office of General Counsel is preparing a paper for your background information on possible legal questions that may arise. OGC will also be present to help answer any questions.

25X1 4. ☐ We have contacted Mr. John Keeney and Mr. William Lynch, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, who testified before Chairman Wolff on this matter and both agreed that the information which CIA will provide will not prejudice their investigation.

25X1 5. ☐ The main thrust of Chairman Wolff's hearing is to assure that all U.S. Government agencies collecting information on illicit narcotics trafficking are working together and continually exchanging information. CIA has cooperated to the fullest extent possible within legal restraints with the law enforcement agencies. The Chairman and members of the Committee may very well hammer you to press for the Agency to do more. However, we cannot without violating our charter and you will have to consistently maintain this position during the hearing.

25X1 6. ☐ Staff Position: The Office of General Counsel, the DDO, and NFAC have reviewed your statement and concur in the presentation.

25X1 7. ☐ Recommendation: It is recommended that you approve the attached statement for your presentation before Chairman Wolff's Select Committee. It is also recommended that you approve the witness list, also attached.



Attachments  
as stated

APPROVAL:

15  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

3/17/78  
Date

DISAPPROVAL:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Briefing of  
HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL

Monday - 20 March 1978

10:00 a.m.

2200 Rayburn House Office Building

(Agency Role in Illicit Narcotics Trafficking)

Lester Wolff (D., N.Y.), Chairman

Peter Rodino (D., N.J.)  
Paul Rogers (D., Fla.)  
E. (Kika) de la Garza (D., Texas)  
James Mann (D., S. C.)  
Herman Badillo (D., N.Y.)  
Morgan Murphy (D., Ill.)  
Charles Rangel (D., N.Y.)  
Fortney (Pete) Stark (D., Calif.)  
James Scheuer (D., N.Y.)  
Glenn English (D., Okla.)  
Billy Lee Evans (D., Ga.)  
Mario Biaggi (D., N.Y.)  
ex-officio  
Cardiss Collins (D., Ill.)  
ex-officio  
Stephen Neal (D., N.C.)  
ex-officio

J. Herbert Burke (R., Fla.)  
Tom Railsback (R., Ill.)  
Louis Frey (R., Fla.)  
Robin Beard (R., Tenn.)  
Benjamin A. Gilman (R., N.Y.)  
Tennyson Guyer (R., Ohio)  
Joe Skubitz (R., Kan.)  
ex-officio

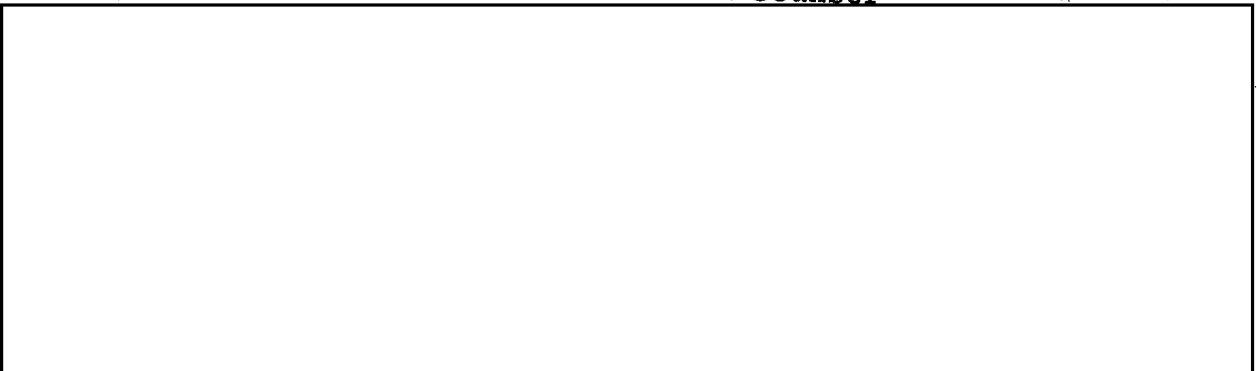
WITNESS LIST

Frank C. Carlucci

Acting Director of Central  
Intelligence

Anthony Lapham

General Counsel



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